



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
5th Floor Conference Room
May 23, 2012
9:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Cashman called the meeting to order at 8:59 A.M. Commissioners Joan Jenkins, Anthony Castagno and Patricia Stankevicius were present. Agency staff was also present.

Chairman Cashman requested that a Resolution thanking Commissioner Bozzuto for his service be added to the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to add the Resolution to the agenda. So voted.

Commissioner Cashman requested that the Complaint by Pasquale Salemi, File No. 2010-091, be continued and removed from the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to remove File No. 2010-091 from the agenda.

Director Kief requested the Complaint of Nancy Herling, File No. 2012-015 be added to the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to add File No. 2012-015 to the agenda as item 13.

Attorney Smith requested the

II. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 25, 2012 Regular Meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the Minutes of the April 25, 2012 Regular Meeting as amended on page 4 to reflect the adoption of public session item 4 as follows “It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-110”. So voted.

III. Administrative Reports

Mr. Brandi reported, regarding CEP, that there are 269 registered candidate committees for the 2012 election cycle with 103 participating candidate committees

and only 3 non-participating candidate committees. The Election Officers and staff have been doing an excellent job encouraging candidates to file early. The numbers are excellent at this point.

Mr. Brandi advised on the legislative cycle. The major bill for us is the disclosure act, that has a number of changes that could affect the CEP, the Governor indicates that he will veto it. If the Governor does veto it, we will lose very positive elements for increasing disclosure requirements for candidates in the election process. A Special Session is being called for budget implementers, is being called for the middle to the end of June. It impacts us with new positions that we had approved in the budget. The Commissioner "Term" bill, died in session. It just wasn't going to happen this term.

Mr. Brandi updated the Commission and staff as to construction on the first floor. We are still having some delays, and will be meeting with DPW this afternoon.

Mr. Brandi updated the Commission and staff as to budgetary savings. We will be finishing 2012 in the black. Staff has done a great job trying to watch spending. The Westlaw contract has been negotiated in order to produce savings. We are looking at everything. We are trying to keep as lean as possible and look at all elements of the budget right now.

Resolution Expressing Commission's Gratitude to Commissioner Richard Bozzuto

Departing Commissioner, Richard Bozzuto was thanked for his 5 years of service to the State Elections Enforcement Commission. A resolution was read by Commissioner Stankevicius and unanimously adopted by the Commission.

IV. Consideration of Hearing Officer's Reports

Procedural Advisor, Attorney Joshua Foley presented the Hearing Officer's Reports on behalf of Hearing Officer Stephen F. Cashman.

A. In the Matter of a Referral by a SEEC Elections Officer

File No. 2011-161NF

Hearing Officer:

Stephen F. Cashman

Respondent:

Stephanie L. Savoy

Prosecutor:

Attorney Patrick J. Lamb

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the Final Decision in File No. 2011-161NF. So voted.

B. In the Matter of a Referral by a SEEC Elections Officer

File No. 2011-164NF

Hearing Officer: Stephen F. Cashman
Respondent: Jonathan Kastner
Prosecutor: Attorney Patrick J. Lamb

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the Final Decision in File No. 2011-164NF. So voted.

C. In the Matter of a Referral by a SEEC Elections Officer

File Nos. 2011-159NF and 2011-167NF

Hearing Officer: Stephen F. Cashman
Respondent: Michael E. Dougherty
Prosecutor: Attorney Patrick J. Lamb

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the Final Decision in File Nos. 2011-159NF and 2011-167NF. So voted.

V. *Pending Complaints and Investigations*

A. *Public Session*

1. In re: Referral by Secretary of the State, Hartford

File No. 2011-120

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondents: Mark Bibbins and Olga Iris Vazquez,
Democratic Registrar of Voters

Attorney: Kevin Ahern

Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-120. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-120. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

2. In re: Referral by Secretary of the State, Hartford
File No. 2012-008
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondents: Mary Rydingsward, Democratic Registrar of
Voters and Sharon Krawiecki, Republican
Registrar of Voters
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-008. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-008. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Paulina Jones-Torregrosa, Middletown
File No. 2012-014
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondents: Janice Gionfriddo, Anne Tommassi,
Sebastian N. Giuliano and Molly Salafia
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-014. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-014. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Daniel Garrett, Hamden
File No. 2012-024
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondent: Nancy Barry
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-024. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-024. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Victor L. Harpley, Cromwell
File No. 2010-013
Proposed Consent Orders & Agreements

Respondents: Ann Halibozek, Mark Corvo, Stephen Bayley, Bill Yeske and Alfred A. Diaz
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2010-013. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2010-013. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Mario Testa, Bridgeport
File No. 2011-083
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent: Sharon London
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-083. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-083. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Joe Kronen, East Hartford
File No. 2010-130
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent: Jon P. Ryan

Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2010-130. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2010-130. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Gail Wall, Norwalk
File No. 2009-118
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondents: Chris Gavrielidis
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2009-118. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2009-118. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by M. Kirk Carr, Jr., Clinton
File No. 2012-044
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondent: John F. Cross III
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Patrick J. Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-044. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-044. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

10. In the Matter of a Complaint by Myrna Watanabe, Harwinton
File No. 2010-046

Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent: Kevin Witkos UConn
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-046. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-046. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

11. In the Matter of a Complaint by Marie G. Hamilton, Hartford
File No. 2011-135

Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent: Urania Petit - Working Families Registrar
of Voters
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-135. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-135. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

12. In re: SEEC Initiated "Democrats for Change", Hartford
File No. 2009-011

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent: Martin Simon
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2009-011. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2009-011. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

13. In the Matter of a Complaint by Nancy Herling, Darien
File No. 2012-015
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondents: Nancy Herling and Michael J. Herling
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-015. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2012-015 upon receipt within 10 days. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement will be available on our website, upon receipt, under [Commission Decisions](#).

14. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300, and the Intersection with the Citizens' Election Program.

Be it resolved, that this Commission has determined that complaints filed with this agency or statements referred from the Office of the Secretary of State or from town clerks of the State's municipalities shall be investigated if any single Commissioner determines that such complaint sets forth facts that require validation during the grant application process.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to move to make a determination to authorize and adopt the proposed recommendation of counsel. So voted.

- VI. *Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4),(10) and General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300***
(Preliminary draft and agency consideration of enforcement action and exempt records relative thereto)

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 9:47 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to C.G.S. §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4) and (10) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records relating thereto, listed as items 1 through 12 and audit items 1 through 5 on the agenda. So voted.

Commissioners Cashman, Castagno, Jenkins and Stankevicius were present. Staff members present were Kristina Corbett, Matthew Lombardi, Gilberto Oyola, Lindsey Leung, Jennifer Montgomery, Kevin Ahern, Charlie Urso, Patrick J. Lamb, William B. Smith, Jon Neumon, James Talbert-Slagle, Michael J. Brandi, Shannon Kief, Evelyn Gratacos and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:50 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

Returning to Public Session the Commission took the following action:

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to approve the issuance of the aforementioned committee draft Audit Reports 1-5 as Final Audit Reports. So voted.

1. In re: SEEC Initiated: "Brenda 2010", Hartford
File No. 2012-010
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

The matter is continued

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Sarah Hemmingway, Sandy Hook
File No. 2010-093
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Janice Solheim
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2010-093. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2010-093. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Sarah Hemmingway, Sandy Hook
File No. 2010-104
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Janice Solheim
Attorney: James Talbert-Slagle
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2010-104. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2010-104. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by George H. Millerd, Kensington
File No. 2010-074
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Pasquale Salemi, East Hartford
File No. 2010-091
Proposed Findings & Conclusions
Respondents: Ned Lamont and Mary Glassman
Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

The matter is continued

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jon D. Norris, Southbury
File No. 2011-108
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Patrick J. Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-108. He recommended adoption of the proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-108. So voted. The proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Kieren M. Moore, Meriden
File No. 2012-016
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Patrick J. Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed a Request to Withdraw in File No. 2012-016.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to permit the complainant's withdrawal in File No. 2012-016. So voted.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Myrna E. Watanabe, Harwinton
File No. 2011-140
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Patrick J. Lamb
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Patrick J. Lamb summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Request to Initiate in File No. 2011-140.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to initiate an investigation in File No. 2011-140. So voted.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Carol D. Walter, Clinton
File No. 2011-106
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondents: Vincent A. Cimino, Clinton Town Clerk
Karen Marsden and Ray Apel
Attorney: William B. Smith
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-106. He recommended adoption of the proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2011-106. So voted. The proposed Consent Order & Agreement are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

10. In re: SEEC Initiated: "Barton For State Senate" - Audit Findings
File No. 2012-033
Proposed Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Withdrawal of Request to Investigate in File No. 2012-033.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to withdraw the request to investigate in File No. 2012-033. So voted.

11. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jason Bartlett, Bethel
File No. 2011-107
Request for Reason to Believe
Respondent: Santa I. Ayala
Attorney: Kevin Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Reason to Believe in File No. 2011-107. He recommended adoption of the proposed Reason to Believe.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius that the Commission finds reason to believe that Respondent Santa I. Ayala violated Connecticut General Statutes §9-412 in File No. 2011-107. So voted.

12. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to move to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to 4 complaints in File Nos.: 2012-052, 2012-053, 2012-054, and 2012-055. So voted.

Consideration of Draft Audit Reports

1. “Oz for Governor, Inc.,” Treasurer: Thomas J. Filomeno
Examiner: Linda Waterman
2. “Keyser for State Rep,” (2011) Treasurer: John E. Slater
Fiscal/Administrative Officer: Sarah Poulin
3. “Mallozzi for State Representative,” (2011) Treasurer: Rocky S. Progano
Fiscal/Administrative Officer: Sarah Poulin
4. “Charles Pia for State Representative,” (2011) Treasurer: Daniel M. McCabe
Fiscal/Administrative Officer: Sarah Poulin
5. “Barton for State Senate,” Treasurer: Peter E. Berg
Examiner: Martin Paxi
See also Sec. VI, Item 8

III. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:58 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted.

Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

The next regular scheduled meeting is May 31, 2012 via teleconference at 4:00 P.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.